

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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R 111605Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0903

S E C R E T CAIRO 3254

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG US

SUBJECT: SADAT'S STATEMENT RE US COMMITMENT

1. WHEN MEETING WITH SADAT MARCH 11, I RAISED WITH HIM IN LOW KEY HIS STATEMENT IN KUWAIT ABOUT SECRET USG COMMITMENTS. I NOTED THE STATEMENT HAD CAUSED YOU SOME EMBARRASSMENT AND THERE HAD BEEN SOME UNHELPFUL CONGRESSIONAL REACTION. WHILE I RECOGNIZED REASON WHY THE PRESIDENT HAD MADE THE STATEMENT, AND THAT HE HAD NO DESIRE TO CAUSE EMBARRASSMENT, I HOPED THAT HE WOULD AGREE THAT THERE IS NO FURTHER NEED FOR PUBLIC ALLUSIONS TO THOSE DOCUMENTS. IT WAS IN BOTH OF OUR INTERESTS NOT TO STIR UP SO SENSITIVE AN ISSUE.

2. SADAT APPEARED TO BE EXPECTING SOME SUCH COMMENT AND RUEFULLY SAID HE HAD READ ABOUT THE CONGRESSIONAL REACTION TO HIS STATEMENT. HE NOTED THAT HE HAD IN FACT MADE THAT SAME STATEMENT EARLIER (CAIRO 2977), BUT NO ONE HAD PICKED IT UP AT THAT TIME. THIS TIME IT HAD BEEN DIFFERENT AND THE MEDIA HAD PICKED IT UP. HE REGRETTED THAT HIS STATEMENT MAY HAVE CAUSED YOU SOME EMBARRASSMENT, WHICH WAS NOT HIS INTENTION. I AGAIN ASSURED HIM THAT YOU RECOGNIZED THIS. HE EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD MADE THE STATEMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF PUBLICLY REFUTING SYRIAN CHARGES THAT  
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HIS SIGNING OF SINAI II MEANT THAT HE HAD DESERTED

THE ARAB CAUSE. HE AGREED THAT WE SHOULD AVOID STIRRING UP THIS ISSUE AGAIN.

3. COMMENT: SADAT TOOK MY LOW-KEY DEMARCHE IN GOOD STEAD AND DID NOT IN ANY WAY APPEAR TO BE UPSET ABOUT IT. WHILE HE HAS PROMISED TO AVOID FUTURE ALLUSIONS TO THOSE SECRET DOCUMENTS AND DOUBTLESS MEANS TO ABIDE BY HIS COMMITMENT, THERE IS ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY THAT HEMAY AGAIN GET CARRIED AWAY AT SOME TIME WHEN HE IS MAKING A SPEECH. IN ANY CASE, HE IS AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS HIS STATEMENT CAUSED YOU AND WILL, I BELIEVE, TAKE CARE TO AVOID A REPETITION OF THE INCIDENT.  
EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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